

### **REMARKS**

**Claims in the Application.** Claims 106, 130 and 155 have been amended. Accordingly, Claims 106-160 are active in this application.

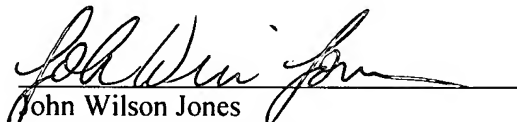
**Requirement for Election of Species.** The Examiner has required election of a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to the species of Claims 106-160 directed to the particles set forth in independent Claim 106. The requirement for restriction is traversed.

Applicants hereby elect the porous ceramics. Claims readable on the elected species are Claims 106-154 and 160. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the requirement for election of species.

The essence of the invention is directed to treated porous particulate materials selected from porous ceramics, polyolefins, styrene-divinylbenzene copolymers and polyalkylacrylate esters which, when compared to their untreated porous particulate material counterparts, exhibit improved physical properties. The requirement for election is unduly restrictive and unnecessary in terms of the overall concept of the claimed invention. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the claims, as presented.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 25, 2006

  
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### **CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION, 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 by first class mail on this the 25<sup>th</sup> day of September 2006.

  
Beth A. Sanders